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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/605,733	10/22/2003	Irving Toivo Salmeen	FGT 1840 PA	2732
28549	7590	11/01/2007		
Dickinson Wright PLLC 38525 Woodward Avenue Suite 2000 Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304			EXAMINER A, MINH D	
			ART UNIT 2821	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 11/01/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/605,733

Applicant(s)

SALMEEN ET AL.

Examiner

Minh D A

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 8/11/07.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 4-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1, 4-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sugawara et al (Patent No: US 7,000,721).

Regarding claim 1, Sugawara discloses, in figures 1-8 and 11, an optical object detection apparatus designed to monitor front and lateral zones of vehicle, comprising at least one light source (laser radar (1) or photodiode (5) or another laser); at least one beam forming assembly optically(optical units (45 and 63)) for detecting at least one object (see figures 4-11) and a control unit (controller (microcomputer(65)) coupled to the at least one object detection sensor(67) and a memory (see the ROM and RAM) (see col.5, lines 55-65, in figure 5) coupled to said controller (microcomputer (65)) and storing a plurality of beam patterns (see figures 7-8 and 11)(laser beams), in response to said object detection signal and the controller(65) for adjusting illumination output comprises adjusting an illumination parameter selected from at least one of beam pattern, beam location,

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beam focus, and beam angle and beam shape. See col.4, lines 14-67 to col.10, lines 1-36.

Regarding claim 4, Sugawara discloses, in figures 2-8 and 11, wherein the at least one object detection sensor ((photo diode (17) and another (laser diode (5)) is a receiver (see figures 5-6) and receives a communication signal from said at least one object (on coming vehicle or leading vehicle), the controller((65) for adjusting said illumination output in response to said communication signal.

Regarding claim 5, Sugawara discloses, in figures 2-8 and 11, wherein said at least one object detection sensor (67) is a passive object detection sensor.

Regarding claim 6, Sugawara discloses, in figures 2-8 and 11, wherein a radio frequency sensor (photo diode (17) or laser diode (5)).

Regarding claim 7, Sugawara discloses, in figures 2-8 and 11, a transmitter(see laser driver(71) and another elements (timer, switch, scanner driver are sending a signal to the photodiode (5) or laser diode(5))coupled to said controller (65)) corresponding to transmitting a first communication signal, the object detection sensor(speed sensor (67)) for receiving a second communication signal in response to the first communication signal and adjusting said illumination output in response to said second communication signal.

Regarding claim 8, Sugawara discloses, in figures 2-11, wherein said controller adjusts said illumination output in response to at least one vehicle operating condition.

Regarding claim 9, Sugawara discloses, in figures 1-11, wherein the controller adjusts said illumination output in response to at least one vehicle operating condition selected from at least one of velocity, speed, directional heading, location, light status, turn indicator status, windshield wiper status, windshield wiper speed, and engine speed.

Regarding claim 10, Sugawara discloses, in figures 1-8, a navigation system coupled to said controller, said controller receiving information related to at least a portion of said at least one vehicle operating condition from said navigation system.

Regarding claim 11, Sugawara discloses, in figures 1-8 and 11, wherein said controller (65) for adjusting a vehicle state in response to the object detection signal.

Regarding claim 12, Sugawara discloses, in figures 1-8 and 11, wherein said controller (65) in adjusting a vehicle state adjusts at least one vehicle state selected from velocity, speed, directional heading, acceleration, location, steering wheel angle, brake status, throttle angle, turn signal status, traction control status, differential wheel speed, light status, turn indicator status, windshield wiper status, windshield wiper speed, and engine speed.

Regarding claims 13-14, Sugawara discloses, in figures 1-8 and 11, wherein said object detection sensor(speed sensor(67)) receives a cruise control signal and said controller in response to said cruise control signal adjusts said vehicle state.

Regarding claim 15, Sugawara discloses, in figures 1-8 and 11, at least one light emitter optically coupled to the at least one beam-forming assembly, the controller independently adjusting illumination output of each of said at least one light emitter.

Regarding claim 16, Sugawara discloses, in figures 1-8 and 11, wherein said object detection signal is generated in response to illumination generated from said at least one object.

Regarding claim 17, Sugawara discloses, in figures 2-8 and 11, wherein said object detection signal is generated in response at least one communicative light signal generated from said at least one object.

Regarding claim 18, Sugawara discloses, in figures 2-8 and 11, at least one light emitter optically coupled to said at least one beam-forming assembly and emitting a communicative light signal, said object detection sensor generating said object detection signal in response to said communicative light signal.

Regarding claim 19, Sugawara discloses, in figures 1-8 and 11, at least one light source (17 and 5)); at least one beam-forming assembly optically (optical units (45 and 63)) coupled to the at least one light source (photodiode (17) and radar(1) and laser diode(5)) and forming an illumination beam having a beam pattern that includes a beam angle, a beam focus, a beam amplitude, a beam position and a beam shape; a transceiver (speed sensor (67)) is receiving a signal and transmitting signal to control unit (65)) for generating a first communication signal; receiving a second communication signal generated from

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at least one object that is external to the vehicle in response to said first communication signal; and a controller(control unit (65) coupled to said at least one beam-forming assembly (45 and 63) and adjusting said illumination beam in response to said second communication signal. See col.4, lines 14-67 to col.10, lines 1-36.

Regarding claim 20, Sugawara discloses, in figures 1-8 and 11, a sensor (67) for detecting at least one communication signal generated from at least one object that is external to the vehicle; and the control unit (65) for adjusting illumination output of the headlight system in response to said at least one communication signal. See col.4, lines 14-67 to col.10, lines 1-36.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory

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action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Citation of relevant prior art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Prior art Stam et al . (U.S. Patent No. 2004/0143380) discloses a image acquisition and processing and exterior lighting control.

Prior art Stam et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,947,576) discloses a system for controlling exterior vehicle lights.

Prior art Stam et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,429,594) discloses a continuously variable headlamp..

Inquiry

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Minh Dieu A whose telephone number is (571) 272-1817. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (5:30 AM-2: 45 PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Owens Douglas W can be reached on (571) 272-1662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Examiner

Minh A

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10/20/07


SHIH-CHAO CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER